

Dr. Burgess Weekly Video Address May 25, 2018

Reflections on American Service

Hello, this is your Congressman Michael Burgess.

Yet again, it is Memorial Day. I encourage you to pause and consider the sacrifices of those who serve our country. I am grateful to the many North Texans who bear the burden of protecting our liberty and freedom.

It is essential that our military have the resources they need to protect Americans at home and abroad. This week, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the National Defense Authorization Act. This bill funds the Armed Forces for fiscal year 2019, totaling more than 700 billion dollars.

In the past year, we have experienced an unacceptable increase in military accidents. Our North Texas community is not immune. In March, a helicopter crash in western Iraq claimed the life of North Texas native Air Force Captain Mark Weber. Captain Weber served our nation as a Combat Rescue Officer. Back in 2007, it was my privilege to recognize his appointment to United States Air Force Academy. As Congress considers the needs of our military, I am thinking of Captain Weber, his family, and all who knew him.

The funding authorized this week will help the military rebuild its equipment and improve training, after years of neglect. President Trump has made this a priority for his Administration, and I stand with him to give American soldiers the best we can possibly offer.

I agree with my fellow Texan and chairman of the Armed Services Committee Mac Thornberry who said, "Our troops are our most valuable asset, and it is important to make sure they have the tools and support they need to be successful."

There has never been a more important time to support our troops, and it is a privilege to send them the resources they need.

As we look ahead to the holiday weekend, we have much more to be thankful for than warm weather and the start of summer vacation. On Memorial Day, please take a moment to remember the many brave men and women who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom.

As always, I appreciate your comments and your questions on this issue or any other issue. May God bless you and your family, may God bless our veterans, and as the song says, God bless you Texas.